

# Ripped from the ROUNDUP

Ripped straight from the pages of old Space News Roundups, here's what happened at JSC on this date:

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For the first time, astronauts will prepare their meals from an assortment of frozen as well as the conventional space foods similar to those carried on manned Gemini and Apollo missions.

Astronauts will cook their own meals on a special food tray now being developed for Skylab. Frozen foods will be stored in a freezer in the Skylab orbital workshop.

In addition to being the most palatable menu carried into space thus far, the Skylab food system is designed to meet the requirements and objectives of an important series of medical investigations.

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The critical design review (CDR) for the first space shuttle orbiter, now in final assembly at Palmdale, Calif., was held at Rockwell International Space Division's Downey plant in late October, and the CDR board called the spacecraft progress "excellent."

Most of orbiter 101's major structural components have been completed and delivered to Palmdale where they are in final assembly. The wings have been mated to the mid-fuselage, and RI last week shipped the forward fuselage from Downey. Rollout will take place in the fall of 1976.

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Columbia prime crew astronauts John Young and Robert Crippen, and ground-based flight controllers at JSC wrestled imaginary problems for some 55 hours last week in the fourth major simulated flight of the Space Transportation System.

The simulation was terminated 3 p.m. Thursday due to a failure in the flight simulation facility.

Purpose of the simulation is to provide space shuttle astronauts and flight controllers with realistic training, using computers and flight simulators to replicate flight conditions and evaluate actions performed by the air and ground crews. Simulated problems were introduced during the test to accustom the crews to handling a variety of potential anomalies.



# 'Texas Twister' joins Longhorn Project herd at JSC



NASA JSC Photo 2000e26592 by Bill Stafford

Vickie Eckhardt, a Clear Brook High School FFA sophomore, stands beside Texas Twister, the latest addition to the Longhorn Project. Eckhardt is responsible for suggesting the name of the steer, which has joined three other Texas Longhorn steers on the grounds of JSC.

A Texas Longhorn steer is now residing at the Johnson Space Center as the latest addition to a unique educational project that teaches local high school students how animal husbandry, agriculture and aquaculture relate to the future of human space flight.

Representatives from JSC, the Clear Creek Independent School District, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and the Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America accepted the six-year-old Texas Longhorn steer donated by Hal Hillman, past president and chairman of the board of the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, during a ceremony on October 11 at the Western Heritage Pavilion at the entrance to JSC.

The steer, named Texas Twister by CCISD students, has joined three other Texas Longhorn steers as the most visible symbols of the ambitious education project, ranging the 60-acre agriculture laboratory adjacent to Rocket Park.

"I'm so pleased that we were able to donate the bull, Texas Twister, to this famous project," said Hillman.

"On behalf of Mr. Abbey, we are proud to be a part of this community, proud to be a part of the Longhorn Project, and very thankful for all of the supporters that we have for this project, and we look forward to some really great things coming from it," said JSC Deputy Director Bill Parsons.

"On behalf of our district, we're excited about this project," said Dr. John

Wilson, CCISD superintendent, in accepting the new Texas Longhorn. "The Longhorn Project is a very special project and we're happy to accept this donation."

The CCISD Agriculture Science Center Learning Laboratory, more commonly called the Longhorn Project, was jointly developed by JSC, CCISD, the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo and the Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America. As students work cultivating fruit and vegetables, or grooming loaned heifers and bulls for the annual livestock show, they also learn about the sorts of alternate plant growth techniques and closed-loop life support and water and waste recycling technologies that are vital to expanding a human presence further into space. ■

DATES & DATA

November 3

Chess Club meets: The Space City Chess Club meets from 5 p.m. - 9 p.m. at the Clear Lake Park Recreation Bldg. All skill levels are welcome. For details please call James Mulberry at x39287 or James Termini at x32639.

November 6

NSS meets: The Clear Lake area chapter of the National Space Society meets at 6:30 p.m. at the Parker Williams Branch of the Harris Co. Library at 10851 Scarsdale Blvd. For more information contact Murray Clark at (281) 367-2227.

November 8

Astronomy seminar: The JSC Astronomy Seminar Club will meet at noon in Bldg. 31, Rm. 248A. For more information contact Al Jackson at x35037.

November 9

Communicators meet: The Clear Lake Communicators, a Toastmasters International club, meet Nov. 9 and 16 at 11:30 a.m. at Wyle Laboratories, 1100 Hercules, Suite 305. For more information contact Allen Prescott at (281) 282-3281 or Richard Lehman at (281) 280-6557.

November 10

Astronomers meet: The JSC Astronomical Society meets at 7:30 p.m. at Space Center Houston. For more information contact Chuck Shaw at x35416.

November 13

Aero Club meets: The Bay Area Aero Club meets at 7 p.m. at the Houston Gulf Airport clubhouse at 2750 FM 1266 in League City. For details contact Larry Hendrickson at x32050.

November 14

IAAP meets: The Clear Lake/NASA Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals meets at 5:30 p.m. in the Colonial Room at Grace Community Church, 14325 Crescent Landing (Hwy 3 and Clear Lake City Blvd.). Cost is \$12.

November 15

Scuba club meets: The Lunarfans meets at 7:30 p.m. For more information contact Mike Manering at x32618.

November 16

Airplane club meets: The Radio Control Airplane Club meets at 7 p.m. at the Clear Lake Park building. For more information contact Bill Langdoc at x35970.

Directors meet: The Space Family Education board of directors meets at 11:30 a.m. in Bldg. 45, Rm. 712D. For more information contact Lynn Buquo at x34716.

Correction

The ages of the Expedition One crew were incorrectly stated in the October 20 Roundup. International Space Station Commander and U.S. Astronaut Bill Shepherd is 51; Flight Engineer and Russian Cosmonaut Sergei Krikalev is 42; and Soyuz Commander and Russian Cosmonaut Yuri Gidzenko is 38.